

- LATEST NEWS & EVENTS -

## Recent News



On Tuesday, the House of Representatives held their annual football game pitting the Freshman Members against the Upperclassmen. We loaded up and headed East to College Station by bus, where we displayed athletic feats never before seen on Kyle Field. It was a nice change of pace from suits and ties, and encouraged camaraderie among us all. I am pround to report that the Freshman won handily 42-21, but our victory was not without consequence! I continue to feel the lingering effects of our efforts, and I'm sure quite a few of my colleagues feel the same. Texas Monthly published a great article on Wednesday that you can read <a href="here">here</a>.

I was excited this week to present my first bill, House Concurrent Resolution 24, in front of the Culture and Tourism Committee. Upon passage, this bill will designate Nacogdoches as the Garden Capital of Texas. I believe David Crockett would approve, given his thoughts expressed following his visit to San Augustine and Nacogdoches: "I must say as to what I have seen of Texas, it is the garden spot of the world...and I do believe it is a fortune to any man to come here."



Thursday, I was able to provide the House with the Pastor of the Day. Pastor Donnie Barron has been the pastor of First Baptist of Rusk for three years now, and was previously at the Bullard Southern Baptist Church. He opened the House with wonderful prayer, and Judy and I are thankful to know he and his wife Kim.



Also on Thursday, I was joined the Governor at Stephen F. Austin while his hand impressions were added to the collection of other leaders who have left a permanent impression both at the University and University and higher education.



I thoroughly enjoyed the Town Hall Meeting on Thursday night and was asked some great questions on education. Texans are Texans, no matter where you are or who you are. I truly believe that we live in a great part of Texas, and I could not be more proud of my friends and neighbors in District 11. This session will bring to light many substantive issues, especially education. It is incumbent on each parent to decide what is best for their child, whether that be charter, private, or public school. While I do support higher education, there are other paths available to prepare people for success and I encourage everyone to explore the path which will lead him or her to the best possible destiny. It is one of the Legislature's main functions to be able to formulate a plan and continue forward. Part of that propelling action is because Texas constitutionally requires a balanced budget, and that is why our economy has flourished. I am anticipating a positive session for my district and look forward to gearing up for the 87 days we have left. Another big thank you to all who attended and to those who watched online!

## Coming Up

The first week of March will be an exciting one. I have a few more bills up for committee hearings and also my first meeting on Special Purpose Districts.

## Resources

To keep up with what's going on in your Capitol please check my state <u>website</u>. Also, you can keep track of legislation, bill analyses, witness lists, and committee hearings from both the House and Senate sides <u>here.</u>

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